TIMES-VIRGINIAN

In the Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt
Appomattox, Virginia

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AT LEAST KNEW WE WERE IMPORTANT

The Times-Virginian is not too distressed that a student thought that Oliver Cromwell surrendered to George Washington at Appomattox. At least they knew that Appomattox was a place of historical importance. That is better than drawing a blank.

From time to time, a survey will be made, and papers and professors will "view with alarm" the findings which invariably reveal that lots of good people are all mixed up in their history. It has always been that way, and, we are sure, will ever be.

Our personal observation has been that an amazing number of people have heard of Appomattox and associate the name with the ending of the War Between the States. In a trip to the Far West, we found lots of people who knew all about Lee and Grant at Appomattox, but had never heard of large cities in this general area when we mentioned their name. Indeed, some mispronounced the name Appomattox, but who among us has not mispronounced the name of some place with an out-of-the-ordinary name?

It is our belief that there is a fabulous interest in history, that books on some historical subject are widely read, and that mass education is indeed bringing up the standard of general knowledge among our people.

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NUMBER ONE ISSUE IN EUROPE

The number one issue in Europe and the key problem affecting the future peace in central Europe is the question of German unification. Eventually this question will have to be settled, one way or the other.

The Communists still hold eighteen million Germans in bondage in East Germany and refuse to allow them to vote in all-German free elections. West Germany contains some fifty million Germans—many more than are in East Germany.

And while that is fortunate, enabling the democratic Germany to be in a position to vote a majority in any free election, in favor of a really independent country and government, it is also the reason the Communists are so afraid of free elections in all Germany.

Chancellor Konrad Adenauer, eighty years old, has staked his government on the policy that a strong West Germany, demanding the return of East Germany, or at least free elections, backed up by the western Democracies, will eventually force the Communists to agree to elections.

The Communists have refused so far to come to any such terms. And there is a division in West Germany. The Social Democrats claim that the only hope for unification is in breaking West Germany's alliances with the West and negotiating with the Russians.

Adenauer's political future and the fate of the West German government hang in the balance in the approaching German election. The entire western world has a high stake in the September voting in West Germany — now the strongest power in central Europe.

If the Social Democrats win, Bonn may break its alliance with the West and try to bring about unification by negotiating with Moscow. This could be a fatal blow to the strength of the western alliance and NATO.

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OLIVER HARDY

To those who remember the always-frustrated fat partner in the Laurel and Hardy movie team, the death of Oliver Hardy recently was a body blow. Hardy, 65, suffered a paralytic stroke last year and had been almost completely incapacitated since.

Strangely enough, Laurel and Hardy have become popular in recent years because of television. Their movies, brought back to young audiences who had never seen the famous slapstick team perform, made them great favorites, and only recently they were talking of making a comeback.

The most refreshing thing about Laurel and Hardy was the fact that they managed to encounter more difficulties doing simple chores, such as washing windows, than even the most awkward of us usually encounter. And those who remember Hardy's withering look, so often turned on the slender, frowning Laurel, will never forget it.

Hardy's first picture was made in Jacksonville, Florida, when he was 21. He was finishing a four-year tour with a stock company in Atlanta, his home. He had been studying art at the University of Georgia, until he gave it up for the stage.

Perhaps the faces of Laurel and Hardy stopped more pies than any other two faces in Hollywood. In any event, their brand of slapstick was far less hectic, less noisy, and more enjoyable than the brand usually seen on television and in the movies today. The double-take, the quiet expression and an absence of noise and commotion, properly handled, still add up to the best in humor.

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THE POLIO RATE

Despite stories making the rounds and surprising reports of polio —even among some who had received the polio vaccine—the number of cases of paralytic infantile paralysis reported in the United States so far this year is far less than that in 1956.

In fact, the Public Health Service figures reveal that through July, the number of paralytic polio cases reported in the nation was less than 800 as against a 2,016 figure for the same period of 1955.

Thus, there are less than fifty per cent of cases of paralytic polio being reported this year than were reported in 1956.

Therefore, polio serum seems to be doing an excellent job. We advise those who have hesitated to take the shots, because of reports, rumors and early troubles with the vaccine, to consider these figures.

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The suspicion of illness is more damaging to the average human being than the knowledge of illness.

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The inability of people to understand issues may be the result of inability of leaders to explain.

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The best way to become financially independent is to learn to say "no" to yourself and keep your money for future use.

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Is Mars inhabited? We don't know, and at the moment we do not have available a special correspondent we could send to find out.

THE BIBLE SPEAKS

International Uniform Sunday School Lessons

BY DR. KENNETH J. FOREMAN

Background Scripture: Amos
Devotional Reading: Amos 5:18-24.

Crusaders

Lesson for August 25, 1957

WHEN Amos, the hired man, Amos the migrant worker, stood up in the city square at Bethel to make a speech, no doubt people laughed. It looked funny to see a man in overalls making like a politician. They laughed: but they did not keep on laughing. He did not talk like a politician at all. It was something else nothing they had expected. It was more like . . . well, like a prophet, only there hadn't been a prophet at Bethel since any one cared to remember. It was like a prophet, only Amos himself didn't want that title. The country was full enough as it was, of prophets who were happy as June-bugs, and about as effective. The one tune they hummed went something like "Everything is for the best in the best of possible world's."

Dr. Foreman

What Is a Crusader?

Amos did not see it that way. He drew such a dark picture of the country and the times, and the prospects, that the leading citizens were worried. Get that man out of here! they said. He's not good for business, he's not good for the church, he's not good, period. But Amos kept right on. We do not know how long he lived after those exciting days in Bethel, but his speeches are not dead yet. We can call him an early type of crusader. No popular occupation!

A crusader is next door to a crank, and some crusaders are cranks, and all cranks are nuisances: so most people shy away from the very word. However, we have other words meaning much the same thing. To crusade —it's no different from "stand up and fight," "stand up and be counted," "go out on a limb," "carry a torch for—," "go to bat (or to the mat) for—." Words change from century to century, but the thing is always the same. The crusader is a man with two slogans. He does not always put it this way, but these two are always samples of his attitude to life and the world around him: Something is wrong with the world: **fight it!**

Something is wrong with the world: **right it!**

Crusading From the Bottom

If you think all's well with the world you are no crusader. If you think a lot is wrong with the world but nothing can be done about it, you are no crusader. But even if you can say Amen to those two slogans just now mentioned, you are still no crusader if all you do is stand there and yell. A true crusader wants other men to join his fight. That was true when the word began to be used, in the years when European army after army went out to the mid-east to win back the Holy Land. It is still true, a crusader is a rouser of men, not merely an aroused man.

What makes a crusader tick? They both feel the weight of the world's evil, but in different ways. The crusader from the bottom is a man who has felt the evil. Amos was in that class. He came from the very bottom drawer, a hired man in a submarginal area, next to beggars, about the most underprivileged of the underprivileged. He well knew what social and economic injustice are; he had been a victim of both. So today and always, some of the most effective crusaders are men and women who have personally been victimized by the evils they set out to destroy. Some of the greatest temperance workers and crusaders have been men whose own lives had been wrecked by alcohol.

Crusader From the Top

The crusader from the top, on the contrary, is a man or woman who has never personally suffered from the evils they fight. They are people with both sympathy and imagination. Wilberforce in England and Lincoln in America had never been slaves, neither had John Woolman; but they felt the evil of slavery more keenly than some slaves did. Frances E. Willard, founder of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, had never been an alcoholic. The greatest crusader of all time was surely Jesus Christ. Should we not say that he was a crusader from the top?

(Based on outlines copyrighted by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. Released by Community Press Service.)

CHILDREN MAY NOT HARVEST CROPS DURING SCHOOL HOURS

Virginia farmers hiring workers for the fall harvest were reminded today that the Fair Labor Standards Act prohibits work by children under 16 years of age on farms during school hours.

"The Federal law provides children with a priceless commodity—time to go to school," says Wm. M. Eaves, Regional Director of the U. S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hours and Public Contracts Divisions, the agency which enforces the Act.

The child-labor provisions protect local youngsters and children of migratory workers alike, Mr. Eaves pointed out. There is only one exception to the rule prohibiting children under 16 from working in agriculture during school hours of the school district where the child lives while working, he added. The exception is for the farmer's child working on his parents' farm.

Mr. Eaves also stated that children may lawfully work on farms before and after school hours, and on week-ends and other days when there is no school.

HORSE KILLS BOY

San Rafael, Calif. Brian C. Shanley, 8-year-old son of the former Baroness Walvraine van Heckeren, of the Netherlands, now Mrs. Edmond Michael Shanley, was thrown and dragged to death by a high-spirited Arabian horse. A golfer, hearing the screams of the child and his mother, stopped the horse, but the boy was dead.

Appomattox is a growing town.

Navy plans to dem ships for economy.

PLUMB

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Washington Notes

PUBLIC POWER

The Administration's decision to fight the Democratic program for Government atomic power plants with the charge of favoritism for public power resulted in defeating the program. Republican leaders used this issue and that of economy in attaining their victory.

FREIGHT RATES

The Interstate Commerce Commission has authorized rail freight increases which, together with earlier interim increases, totalled 14 per cent for the East, 12 per cent for the West and 9 per cent for the South.

THE RANGER

As one of his final official acts, Admiral Radford, the outgoing Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, commissioned the new $175,000,000 supercarrier, Ranger, and appealed for all the military forces of the nation to act together as a team.

HIGHER EDUCATION

The President's Committee on Education Beyond the High School has reported that the nation's colleges, already over-crowded, would be confronted by 1970 by a number of young men and women double that of today's college enrollment. In contrast to today's enrollment of 3,000,000, the nation's colleges must find means of providing education for 6,000,000 young people.

LONG RANGE WEATHER

The establishment of an institute for long range weather forecasting has been recommended by the National Science Foundation in Washington by Jerome Namias, chief of the U. S. Weather Bureau's extended forecast service.

FALL BOOM?

Industrial leaders appear to be counting on a big fall pickup in business activities to make up for a slight drop-off during the summer months. If the new boom doesn't come along on schedule, to put idle industrial facilities to work, the country will be in for a business recession - the degree of which is yet to be seen.

NEW SOIL BANK

In order for farmers to receive the $500,000,000 the Government is offering them to reduce acreages of surplus cotton, wheat corn, rice and tobacco next year, they will have to cut their total harvested acreage below the average of the past two years. This is a new requirement, which is designed to prevent the shifting of cropland from surplus crops to other crops, which would soon create new surpluses, and add to the total oversupply of farm commodities.

FEDERAL PAY RISE

A House bill, calling for an eleven per cent aunnal pay rise, which would affect about 1,000,000 Federal white collar workers, is expected to be passed. It would add some $530,000,000 to Federal payroll costs.

THE REA

Borrowers from the rural power development fund of the Rural Electrification Administration are meeting their obligations promptly. Of the 988 ctive electric borrowers, only nine were in arreams on payments as of August 1. The amount of the past due payments was $200,600 out of slightly more than $2,900,000,000 in extended loans. Most of the borrowers are farmer cooperatives, organized to extend electrical service to farms.

INVENTORIES

The rise in stocks of goods and materials in factories and stores is a source of worry to some economists. Manufacturing and trade inventories are $5,000,000,000 higher than for the same period a year ago, and have increased in the last few months after being cut back earlier in the year.

THE CANCER FIGHT

A four-scientist team at the National Cancer Institute, at Bethesda, Md., has found that three antibiotics - aureomycin, terramycin, and achromycin - seek out cancers better than any other known drugs. The antibiotics show a unique affinity for cancerous tissue, seek out a greater variety of tumors than any other known drugs, shining with a bright yellow fluorescence under ultraviolet light, and remain in the tumor tissues for periods up to twenty days. While they are not cures, they furnish better means of diagnosis.

BETTER FARM BUILDINGS AIM OF VPI STUDY

Better and cheaper farm buildings are sought by researchers at VPI.

In one test, McNeil Marshall of the agricultural engineering department is trying different methods of applying various types and weights of aluminum sheets on economical supporting fram structures.

He built an experimental aluminum machinery storage building of 5/7 pole-type construction and 2/7 conventional frame construction. Nailed trussed rafters were used on the entire building. Sheathing variations from solid deck to 4-inch strips 24 inches on centers were used. Aluminum sheets were all nailed on with screw-type aluminum nails with neoprene washers.

The pole type construction cost one-half as much as conventional framing per unit construction. Heavier weight aluminum roofing sheets were applied over wider-spaced rafters and sheating, cost less than lelight-weight aluminum roofing installed on solid deck sheathing.

Long-time observations on how long and how well the aluminum siding and roofing will wear are hopeful to date. The building was built in 1953, and there has been no noticeable deterioration or structural failure to date.

IS YOUR DRIVEWAY SAFE?

A beautiful driveway can lead to an ugly accident if it blocks your vision.

Suppose, for example, you leave your driveway to enter the highway, you stop. Can you see at least 700 feet both left and right? If not, you're taking dangerous chances every time you enter the driveway.

The Virginia Rural Safety Council says a clear view is necessary if you intend to go on living. Clear out anything that blocks your view of on-coming traffic from either the right or left.

DAIRYMEN FACED WITH BIG JOB

Ever wonder how much milk and other dairy products the average person uses in a lifetime?

Dairy specialists at VPI say that each person consumes the total production from eight years milking of the average cow — 48,710 pounds of milk. This means that the 4,000,000 babies predicted for 1957 will use 195,000,000,000 pounds of milk in their lifetime, or more than 1 1-2 times the present annual production of the United States.

To carry these figures a little further, today's baby will drink, during its 68.8 years life expectancy, almost 12,000 quarts of milk. He will eat three or four times his weight in butter, slightly less cheese, and a staggering 1,032 quarts of ice cream. That's emptying the old gallon crank freezer 258 times.

These figures point up the job facing dairymen — to provide the tremendous amount of milk that is needed for the future population of the United States, the specialists say.

Two Classes

The people of the United States are rapidly being divided into two classes, those who work for the government and those who work for those who work for the government. —Decatur Daily.

MOST DANGEROUS TIME

Chicago.- "Twilight Time" was immortalized in a once-popular song.

But safety men of today would just as soon forget the "twilight time" of 1956 — as usual the most dangerous time of day in traffic.

More fatal traffic accidents and more auto mishaps of all kinds occurred from 4 - 8 P. M. than during any other four hours of the day.

The just-published 1957 edition of "Accident Facts," the National Safety Council's statistical yearbook, shows that a fourth of all traffic detahs and 29 per cent of all auto accidents occured from 4-8 P. M.

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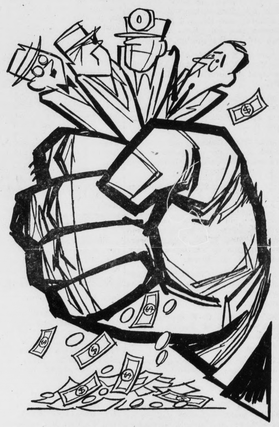

The National Right to Work Committee is a COALITION OF EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES

working together on the National level to abolish compulsion in union membership. This must be accomplished by:

1—Bringing to people everywhere a complete understanding of what the Right to Work issue means; and

2—Public education and information that will bring about corrective legislation.

YOU can demonstrate through your support of the National Right to Work Committee that you, too, believe that "Every man should have the right, but not be compelled, to join a labor union!"

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